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News Release

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Fluor Fernald Awards Silos 1 and 2 Waste Storage Contract

CINCINNATI - Fluor Fernald, the contractor responsible for cleaning up the 1,050-acre former uranium production plant for the Department of Energy (DOE), awarded a \$7.5 million contract to Waste Control Specialist (WCS) in Texas for interim storage of uranium processing residues from Fernald's K-65 Silos at their Andrews County site. WCS is currently pursuing a license to permanently dispose of the material at the same location. Removal of the K-65 waste from Fernald represents the last major hurdle in permanently closing the 54-year-old plant.

In March, Fluor Fernald workers safely transferred 8,900 cubic yards of K-65 waste from two aging concrete silos to four new 750,000-gallon tanks. With an interim storage and possible permanent disposal site now identified, Fluor Fernald is seeking DOE approval to startup the treatment facility. Here plant operators will blend the waste with flyash and cement to create a loose grout that will be loaded into half-inch thick cylindrical carbon steel containers for shipment to WCS.

Specially designed flatbed trailers will securely hold two containers per shipment. The waste treatment and shipping campaign is expected to run May – December 2005. The shipments will meet all applicable Department of Transportation requirements after the waste has been treated and packaged. It will take a loaded truck five days to complete a round trip to the WCS facility from Fernald.

"I expect silo waste treatment and shipping operations to proceed as smoothly as waste retrieval from the silos," says Fluor Fernald Closure Project Director Jamie Jameson. "With each step forward there's a growing confidence among workers and Fernald neighbors that the cleanup is nearing completion."

Once the K-65 waste is safely removed from the site all waste treatment and support facilities will be demolished and environmental technicians will certify that established soil cleanup levels are met. Fluor Fernald is in the process of restoring the site to an area that has hundreds of acres of prairie, ponds, forest and wetlands. Site closure is planned for spring 2006.

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